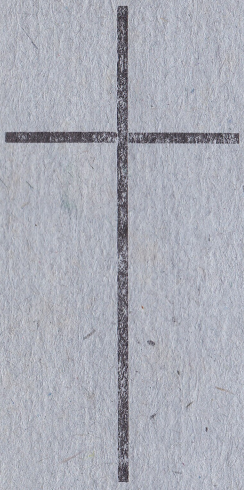
ST. STEPHEN'S CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
MILNROW

and

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
LITTLEBOROUGH

The Messenger



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THE MESSENGER

PALM SUNDAY

MARCH 22nd. 1970

at 11.0 a.m.

WORSHIP AS ONE

MARCH

1970

Dear Friends,

Have you ever had a dream come true? One of my dreams is about to come true, with everyone's co-operation. On Palm Sunday, March 22nd 1970, you will have to come early to get a seat at St. Stephen's! No! Ena Sharples isn't preaching! On that day our two churches are coming together to join in a united act of Family Worship. This will be an occasion not to miss. No excuses allowed. We will pick you up by car from your home, if you find walking difficult. Littleborough people will leave at 10.30 a.m. by bus from the church, which is normal starting time for morning worship. This will give plenty of time for the 11 a.m. start at St.Stephen's.

The aim is to introduce ourselves to ourselves: children, parents. Busy Bees, Teachers, Men's fellowship, Deacons, everyone. We will show our strength as a pastorate and prove that Congregationalism in our churches is far from dormant! On the subject of dormant.... woe betide you if you sleep in that morning!

Seriously, this is an earnest plea from the heart.... please, please come! If there are any of you who haven't been for weeks, months, years, please come. You needn't feel conspicuous, because there will be many people who don't know one another. If you had an argument with anyone, or bear a grievance going back into the mists of antiquity, then push it to one side and make the move. No-one else can do it but you. There's no better time than at the beginning of the momentous week in history - Holy Week - to want to worship together.

As a post script....this will be the time to find out who everyone is, including your cuddly editor! St.Stephen's has enough coffee to make everyone happy after the service and warm Littleborough hearts before going home. There will be creche and nursery for the Junior Church members,

and if you are wondering about your offertory envelopes for that day - both are acceptable!

Make it a Sunday to remember!

Yours sincerely,

Glyn Jenkins

***P.S. The minister hopes that he is not called to Birch Hill for an 'emergency' during the festivities!

IN MEMORIAM

FRANK HEAP: of 22 Ladyhouse Close, Milnrow, who died suddenly on Sunday 25th January 1970, aged 67. Our sympathy goes to Mr. & Mrs. Hignett of 21 Woodlands Road.

SUSANNAH TAYLOR, of 2 Entwistle St., Milnrow, who passed away on Monday 26th January 1970, aged 74. Mrs. Taylor was a beloved member of our church, a consistent attender and supporter, and a courageous Christian. She was a member of the Church Choir for many years, and lived out her faith in humility and sincerity. Our sympathy goes to Mr. A.Taylor, her husband and all the relatives.

BAPTISMS:

At Littleborough:

TREVOR GRAHAM SUTCLIFFE and ANTHONY DAVID SUTCLIFFE, sons of Mr. & Mrs. P.T. Sutcliffe of 5 Gaskell Close, Littlebough.

ALISON LEACH, adopted daughter of Mr. & Mrs. M.T. Leach of 5 Lyndale Avenue, Littleborough.

These baptisms were conducted by our minister on Sunday 8th February, 1970.

At St. Stephen's Milnrow:

ALANA BAMFORD and MARINA BAMFORD, daughters of Mr. & Mrs. A. Bamford of 13, Birch Crescent, Newhey, baptised by our minister on Sunday February 15th.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:

At Littleborough:

Mr. W. Griffiths and Mrs. B. Griffiths of 63 Shore Mount on transfer from Westminster Road Congregational Church, Birmingham.

Mr. R. Radcliffe (on confession of faith) and Mrs. A. Radcliffe on transfer from Kirkham Congregational Church

received by our minister on Sunday 8th February at the communion service. Congratulations and good wishes to our new-comers, we hope that you will be at home at Littleborough.

NEW DEACONS AND OFFICIALS

At Milnrow:	Church Treasurer:	Mr. B. Clough
	Deacons:	Mr. B. Clough
		Mrs. E. Gillon
		Mrs. A. Scaddon

COLD OUT - WARM IN

A successful coffee evening and bring and buy sale was held at the home of Mr. & Mrs. J.Emmott on Tuesday 17th February. Over 30 people turned out on a bitterly cold and snowy evening to attend this Ladies Guild function which raised over £6.

The next Ladies Guild effort might be held in warmer weather - Tuesday evening 14th April: a Fashion Show given by Harwoods of Shaw.

WOMEN'S GUILD - Bury & Rochdale District

Rally at Blackford Bridge
Wednesday 4th March at 7.30 p.m.
Mrs. Evans of Park Cong. Church will be inducted as President and will give the address.

Coach will leave the church at 6.50 p.m.
(There are plenty of seats available if your name is not already down.)

MEDITERRANEAN MOOCHERS

A slide show on Cyprus given by Mrs. A. Collinge of Chadderton on 3rd February was attended by nearly 50 people. This was a Ladies Guild meeting and there was only one man in attendance - Mr. Collinge who operated the projector, and in the words of the secretary of the guild "assisted with comments." (Under the circumstances it was a wonder that he could find an edgeways to put a word into.)

Mr. & Mrs. Collinge took the slides last Easter when they visited their daughter whose husband is an R.A.F. Chaplain on the island. Any menfolk at St. Stephen's who wonder why their wives have not mentioned the slides show may be interested to know that Mr. & Mrs. Collinge produced plenty of documentary evidence to show that in Cyprus, unlike England, women do all the work and the men sit in the sun and play dice. Now if that is what they mean by "Orthodox" .....

JUMBLE JINGLE

Come, all you glad rag lovers,
And brouse around a while,
You may just find a maxi-coat
That's up-to-date in style.

Come, all you bargain hunters,
And collectors of antiques,
You'll see that all our prices
Are lower than boutiques.

A word to all spring-cleaners
Keep this date in mind
The Ladies Guild will welcome
Those unwanted goods you'll find.

- Ladies Guild Bargain Boutique - 2.0 - 4.0 pm.
Jumble Sale - 7.0 p.m.

Friday - 13th March

EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO:

MEN'S WEEKEND: MARCH 14th & 15th

TURKEY TEA AND DANCE

Saturday, March 14th

Tea: 5.30 p.m. 6.15 p.m. Adults 6/6d.
Children 3/-

(including Dance)

Dancing to Ed. Jason Trio 7 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Dance only: Pay at door 3/- and 1/6d.

SUNDAY SERVICES CONDUCTED BY OUR MINISTER

SPECIAL MUSIC BY MEN'S CHOIR
ORGANIST: MR. A. CLEGG

****

JOINT SERVICE BETWEEN MILNROW AND LITTLEBOROUGH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES: PALM SUNDAY MORNING MARCH 22nd 1970. 11 a.m.

(see Minister's Message)

THE CHOIR WILL RENDER STAINER'S "CRUCIFIXION"

on MAUNDY THURSDAY EVENING (26th March)

at 7.30 p.m.

Soloists: Mr. D. Lynch (Tenor)
(To be announced) (Baritone)
Organist: Mr. A. Clegg

****

GOOD FRIDAY MORNING SERVICE:

At Milnrow: 9.30 a.m.
At Littleborough 10.45 a.m. Note the times

CHURCH SECRETARY IN STITCHES?

Congratulations to Mrs. Nellie Roberts on winning 2nd Prize in a nation-wide knitting competition.

SIDESMEN FOR MORNING WORSHIP

March 1st	Mr. W. Holland	Mr. W. Prince
8th	Mr. H. Mellor	Mr. C. Pearson
15th	Mr. D. Fursey	Mr. R. Gillon
22nd	Counc. J. Harrison	Counc. I. Royle
	with Littleborough Stewards	
27th	Mr. J. Collins	Mr. A. Bruckshaw
29th	Mr. G. Buckley	Mr. A. Rae

DEACONS ROTA

	Afternoon worship Door Stewards	Vestry Duty
March 1st	Mr. J. Emmott	Mrs. A. Wilson
	Mr. P. Whitehead	
8th	Mr. B. Clough	Mrs. A. Scaddon
	Mr. H. Whitehead	
15th	Mr. J. Emmott	Mr. P. Whitehead
	Mr. G. Whitworth	
22nd	Mrs. A. Scaddon	Miss M. Wood
	Mrs. E. Gillon	
29th	No Evening Service	

COMMUNION ROTA

March 1st	Mrs. E. Starkie	Miss M. Wood
29th	Mr. G. Whitworth	Mr. B. Clough

FAMILY CHURCH COFFEE ROTA

March 1st	Miss M. Wood	Miss A. Clegg
8th	Mrs. Duffy	Mrs. F. Butterworth
15th	Mrs. F. Rae	Mrs. D. Law
22nd	To be announced	
29th	Mrs. A. Wood	Mrs. Collins

COMMUNION TABLE FLOWERS

March 1st	Mrs. H. Buckley	Mrs. E. Smith
8th	Mrs. E. Cross	Miss M. Wood
15th	Mrs. A. Tither	Mrs. J. Harrison
22nd	Miss I. Tither	Mrs. B. Shackleton
29th	Mrs. E. King	

ST. STEPHEN'S DIARY

March

Sun.	1st	11.00 am.	Rev. G. Jenkins
		6.00 pm.	" (Communion)
Tues.	3rd	7.30 pm.	Ladies Guild - Mrs.M. Heywood (Holy Land Slides)
Wed.	4th	7.30 pm.	" Rally at Blackford Bridge
		8.00 pm.	Lay Preachers Assoc. Mtg.at Heywood
Sun.	8th	11.00 am.	Mr. K. Davies
		6.00 pm.	Rev. H. Turpie
Wed.	11th	7.30 pm.	Deacons Meeting
Fri.	13th	2.00 - 4.0 pm.	Bargain Boutique
		7.00 pm.	Jumble Sale
Sat.	14th		MENS TEA AND DANCE (see page 6)
		5.30 & 6.15 pm.	Tea
		7.00 - 11.0 pm.	Dance
Sun.	15th		MENS SUNDAY
		11.00 am. & 6.0 p.m.	Rev. G. Jenkins
Sun.	22nd	11.00 am.	UNITED FAMILY SERVICE Rev.G. Jenkin
		6.00 pm.	"Film Service" "
Wed.	25th	8.00 pm.	Church Meeting
Thur.	26th	7.30 pm.	Choir present Stainers "CRUCIFIXION
Fri.	27th	9.30 am.	GOOD FRIDAY Rev. G. Jenkins
Sun.	29th	11.00 am.	Rev. G. Jenkins (Family Communion)
			No Evening service

April

Sat.	4th	2.30 pm.	Whist drive & afternoon tea 2/6d.
	7th	7.30 pm.	Ladies Guild "Delicatessen Demo.) - Mr. R. Anstess
	8th	3.00 pm.	Ladies Auxiliary at Castleton

OFFERTORIES

January	Envelopes			Cash			Total		
	£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d
4th	11.	11.	0	4.	10 .	9	16.	1.	9
11th	11.	17.	0	3.	16.	9	15.	13.	9
18th	19.	2.	0	3.	12.	1	22.	14.	1
25th	13.	19.	6	6.	5	9	20.	5.	3

March

Sun.	1st	10.30 am.	Mrs. A.Davey) LADIES
		3.00 pm.	Rev. J. Halfpenny) SUNDAY
Tues.	3rd	7.30 pm.	Ladies Guild A.G.M.
Wed.	4th	7.30 pm.	" " Rally at Blackford Br.
Sun.	8th	10.30 am.	Rev. Stanley Lewis
		6.00 pm.	Miss Burgess (Bury). Communion
Tues.	10th	7.30 pm.	Coffee Evening for PilotsFund 'BB' 'Film!
Sun.	15th	10.30 am.	Pastor Lord (Smallbridge)
Tues.	17th	7.45 pm.	Church Meeting
Fri.	20th	6.45 pm.	Scripture Exam.
Sun.	22nd	11.00 am.	JOINT SERVICE AT MILNROW (Transport leaving our church at 10.30 am.)
Mon.	23rd	7.30 pm.	Teachers preparation class
Thur.	26th	7.45 pm.	Men's Fellowship
Fri.	27th	10.45 am.	Rev. G. Jenkins (GOOD FRIDAY)
Sun.	29th	10.30 am.	Mr. A. Roberts (Communion)

April

Fri.	3rd	7.00 pm.	Jumble Sale (Junior Church)
Sun.	5th	10.30 am.	Mr. J. Farraday (Bury)
Tues.	7th	7.30 pm.	Ladies Guild

COMMUNION TABLE FLOWERS

Mar.	1st	Mrs. E. Jackson
	8th	Mrs. Walker
	15th	Mrs. Hancock
	22nd	Mrs. Crossley & Mrs. Williams
	29th	Mrs. Wade
April	5th	Mrs. Cockcroft

OFFERTORIES

January	18th	£6.	10.	0
	25th	£10.	18.	0
February	1st	£ 7.	5.	0
	8th	£17.	2.	9

SIDESMEN

March 1st	Ladies Sunday	
8th	Mr. J. Holt	Mr. Ingham 10.30 am.
	Mr. Booth	Mr. Simpson 6.00 pm
15th	Mr. Barker	Mr. Beattie
22nd	Joint Service at Milnrow	
29th	Mr. Brown	Mr. Mellor
April 5th	Mr. E. Holt	Mr. H. Hill

DEACONS COMMUNION ROTA

March 8th	Mr. Beattie	Mr. Griffiths
29th	Mrs. Hancock	Mrs. Beattie

CRECHE ROTA

March 1st	Pat Schofield	Dorothy Mallinson
8th	Beryl Hartley	Joan Law
15th	Stella Moss	Brenda Leach
22nd	Margery Holt	Hilary Vincent
29th	Aileen Radcliffe	Barbara Griffiths

Creche helpers are asked to be 10 mins. ahead of time.

****

FAMILY CHURCH READINGS & READERS

March 8th	"His new ideas" St. Mark 2: V.23-28	Steven Moss
15th	"The challenge he brought" St.Matt. 16: v.13 - 16 & 24 - 26	Mrs.Hancock
29th	"Alive for the world" (Easter) St. Luke 24: v.1 - 10	Esther Bennett
April 5th	"Jesus comes to his friends" St. John 21: v.1 - 14	Mrs. C. Hill

****

MAJOR CHANGES AT LITTLEBOROUGH

At the church A.G.M. on 27th January many new officers were appointed, and the forthcoming inaugeration of "Pilots" was announced.

The newly elected officers are as follows:-

Church Secretary:	Mr. W. Griffiths
Church Treasurer:	Mr. R. Brown
Welfare Secretary:	Mrs. K. Hill
Pulpit Supply Secretary:	Mrs. J. Law
Autumn Fair Coupon Sec:	Mrs. E. Crossley
Tea Room Supervisors:	Mrs. E. Holt
	Mrs. E. Cockcroft
Deacons:	Mr. W. Griffiths
	Mr. J. Holt

—"Many hands make light work"

Rev. G. Jenkins who presided over the A.G.M., paid particular tribute to Mrs. Hancock and to Mr. Beattie who have served the church so well for many years.

The meeting ended with supper provided by Mr. & Mrs. Beattie and Mrs. C. Binns.

****

LADIES GUILD

At the February meeting Mrs. Hancock read excerpts from various church magazines and was duly thanked by Mrs. C. Hill, the president. The ladies with birthdays in the first quarter of the year then provided a hot supper and Mrs. K. Hill thanked them for their hospitality, and went on to send birthday or get well-greetings as appropriate. Mrs. Cockcroft was the pianist.

****

LITTLEBOROUGH.....

WELCOME TO "PILOTS"

WHAT IT IS: A children's and young people's organisation from 8 upwards, modelled on life at sea.

ITS BASIS: The mission work of the church in every country and especially under the Congregational Council for World Mission.

WHAT DO THE CHILDREN DO? Essentially, have a good time together, with plenty of activity. This includes recreation and games as well as work for badges.

IS THERE A UNIFORM LIKE SCOUTS AND GUIDES? No. But there may be inspection, and there will be badges to wear when 'on watch.'

WHO'S IN CHARGE? The Captain of course..... Mr. Roy Radcliffe, 3 Butterworth Street, Littleborough. And .....as long as there are plenty of volunteers (men and women), there will be plenty of Junior Officers.

HAVE YOU GOT TO COME TO CHURCH TO JOIN? Technically No. But the work which is done in Pilots is so linked with Junior Church, that you can't do one without the other.

WHEN WILL IT START: In April, probably on a Monday or a Friday. The date and time to be announced later.

HOW CAN WE FIND OUT MORE? Come to the Coffee Evening arranged by the Busy Bees, on Tuesday March 10th, when there will be a film and plenty of time to ask questions.

REMEMBER.....CARRY ON CRUISING

STILL BUSY

At the A.G.M. of the Busy Bees held on 4th February the following officers were elected:-

President:	Mrs. Barbara Griffiths
Secretary:	Mrs. Aileen Radcliffe
Treasurer:	Mrs. Marjorie Holt
Creche Secretary & Publicity Sec.:	Mrs. Hilary Vincent
Refreshments:	Miss A. Simpson

On Tuesday 10th March at 7.30 p.m. a Coffee Evening and Bring and Buy Sale is to be held to raise funds for the proposed "Pilots" club. Appropriately, therefore, during the course of the evening Mr. Jenkins will show a film illustrating how the "Pilot" move ment works.

Other events being planned by the Busy Bees include:-

A Wig Boutique

A Hat Parade - (April)

A Bargain Party

A Continental Food Evening

& A Waist - line supper

- but not necessarily in that order.

MODERN EQUIPMENT FROM OLD GEAR

The Junior Church Jumble Sale on 3rd April is intended to raise funds for the purchase of visual aid equipment.

Please bring whatever jumble you can spare along to the church.

SIGN IN - A THIRD VIEW

As an exile from Milnrow, whose family has been closely associated with St.Stephen's for many many years, I only occasionally get the chance to read "The Messenger," but having just read Neil Bruckshaw's letter, your reply, and the 'petty' questionnaire (I can only agree with his choice of objective), I feel I too must air my views.

Neil is quite right in seeing the "Sign-In" as a matter of conscience, and you are right in considering it a tiny weapon in the fight against world hunger. But a petition does not, Sir, carry more weight if it is voluntary, because it is quantity which matters - the petitionee cannot guage people's feelings from reading signatures.

What do I think of your method? I do not recall Christ having to be 'either sarcastic, bitter or, at the other extreme, mealy-mouthed', But he managed to get his point across very well, I think.

Repurcussions such as that which appeared in your magazine make a mockery of the 'Conscience side' of the petition by directing conscience. Or is it a matter of the end justifying the means.

.....Peter Stott

THINK ABOUT IT

BAN	CON	MOB
+ TON	- RED	+ NOB
BENT	BOD	TED

The ten letters used here represent numbers 0 to 9. Which letters represents which number? (Don't hurry)

Last Month's Solution - The farmer's daughter was bound to draw out a black pebble but quick as a flash she dropped it on the path and it was lost among all the other black and white pebbles. "Never mind" she said "The pebble left in the bag must be of the opposite hue to that which I drew out."

-- Lucky Wicked Baron to avoid being married to such an artful wench.

C.C.W.M.

OFFERING OUR WORK

"Most people have to spend a good deal of time carrying out routine duties; a woman for example cleaning, bed-making, peeling potatoes and washing clothes or dishes.

The maker of beds at home can help by offering that piece of work to God with special intention for the makers of beds in mission hospitals 3000 miles away; the peeler of potatoes and the washer of dishes can similarly help those who are feeding hungry children in famine-stricken lands; those who are cleaning out an English room can offer their work on behalf of those ministering in the slums of Shanty Town; and that is prayer, real prayer, though few words may be used or none."

(Noel Kennaby: "To start you praying.")

- An excerpt from the
"Congregational Prayer Fellowship"

" Teach me, my God and King,
In all things Thee to see,
And what I do in everything,
To do it as for Thee. "

MISSIONARY COMMITTEE GOES DECIMAL

C.C.W.M. collecting boxes will be opened in July this year and again in February 1971 in preparation for the conversion to decimal currency. This was decided at the Missionary Committee's A.G.M. held on 4th February. It was also decided to have a fund raising evening in Autumn - more details later.

ONE LAST POINT ****

Don't forget Palm Sunday morning!

ST. STEPHEN'S CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, MILNROW

and

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, LITTLEBOROUGH

MINISTER:	Rev. Glyn Jenkins B.A., B.D. The Manse, 196 Harbour Lane, Milnrow. Tel: ROCHDALE 50161
CHURCH SECRETARY: - MILNROW	Mr. Allan Roberts, 54 Beechfield Road, Milnrow. Tel: ROCHDALE 42243
CHURCH SECRETARY: - LITTLEBOROUGH	Mr. W. Griffiths, 63 Shore Mount, Littleborough. Tel: ROCHDALE 79843
MESSENGER EDITOR:	Counc. Ian Royle B.Sc.(Econ.), 24 Ladyhouse Close, Milnrow. Tel: ROCHDALE 41916

******

April Deadline.....15th March 1970

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